



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FACT SHEET
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agencies
Fund (ARP-OA SEA)

This document provides an overview of the American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agencies Fund (ARP-OA SEA) under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. The American Rescue Plan provides a total of \$850 million for the Outlying Areas to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. In addition to ARP-OA SEA, the ARP Act includes nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts, \$3 billion for special education, \$2.75 billion to support non-public schools, and additional funding for homeless children and youth, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives.

ARP-OA SEA OVERVIEW

Outlying Area Allocation and Use of ARP-OA SEA Funds

- An Outlying Area SEA, or a local educational agency (LEA) that receives a subgrant, may use its ARP-OA SEA funds to help meet a wide range of needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including reopening schools safely, sustaining their safe operation, and addressing students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs resulting from the pandemic.
- The ARP-OA SEA Fund includes **three SEA-level reservations for activities and interventions (carried out directly or through subgrants to LEAs or contracts) that respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups** (each major racial and ethnic group, economically disadvantaged students, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care:
 - **20 percent of the total ARP-OA SEA allocation for the implementation of evidence-based interventions aimed specifically at addressing learning loss**, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs.
 - **A portion of the total ARP-OA SEA allocation for evidence-based summer enrichment programs.**
 - **A portion of the total ARP-OA SEA allocation for evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs.**
- An SEA may use **a reasonable and necessary amount of its total ARP-OA SEA allocation for administrative costs and emergency needs** as determined by the Outlying Area to address issues related to COVID-19.
- **Remaining ARP-OA SEA funds** may be used for a **wide range of activities** to address needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary

Education Act (ESEA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), or Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins CTE). Specifically, ARP-OA SEA funds may be used to develop strategies and implement public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on reopening and operating schools to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, as well as:

- coordinating preparedness and response efforts with Outlying Area, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19;
- training and professional development on sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the LEA's facilities;
- repairing and improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards;
- improving indoor air quality;
- addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs;
- planning for or implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning;
- purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities;
- providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors;
- planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs;
- addressing learning loss; and
- other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services, including continuing to employ existing or hiring new LEA and school staff.

SEA Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

- The SEA, within 30 days of receiving ARP-OA SEA funds, will develop and make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return of in-person instruction and continuity of services consistent with the LEA plan required in section 2001(i) of the ARP.

Comparison of Education Stabilization Fund State Educational Agency (ESF I-SEA) (CARES Act), ESF II-SEA (CRRSA Act), and ARP-OA SEA (ARP Act)

This following table outlines the primary differences among the ARP-OA SEA Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021; the ESF II-SEA Fund under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, enacted on December 27, 2020; and the ESF I-SEA Fund under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, enacted on March 27, 2020.

Topic	ESF I-SEA (CARES Act)	ESF II-SEA (CRRSA Act)	ARP-OA SEA (ARP Act)
Authorizing Legislation	Section 18001(a)(1) of Division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.	Section 311(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act.	Section 2005 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.
Period of Funds Availability, including 12-month Tydings Amendment period	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. Available for obligation by State educational agencies (SEAs) and subrecipients through September 30, 2022.	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. Available for obligation by SEAs and subrecipients through September 30, 2023.	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared. Available for obligation by SEAs and subrecipients through September 30, 2024.
Timeline	The Department encourages each SEA to award ESF-SEA funds within one year of receipt.	The Department encourages each SEA to award ESF-SEA funds within one year of receipt.	The ARP-OA SEA funds will be obligated by the SEA and subgrantees no later than September 30, 2024.
Equitable Services	The SEA will ensure that equitable services, as determined through timely and meaningful consultation with non-public school officials, will be provided to students and teachers in non-public elementary and secondary schools in the same manner as provided under section 8501 of the ESEA. - The SEA will ensure that a public agency	Same	Same

Topic	ESF I-SEA (CARES Act)	ESF II-SEA (CRRSA Act)	ARP-OA SEA (ARP Act)
	<p>will maintain control of ESF-SEA funds for services and assistance provided to a non-public school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SEA will ensure that a public agency will have title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with ESF-SEA funds. - The SEA will ensure that services to a non-public school with ESF-SEA funds will be provided by a public agency directly, or through contract with another public or private entity. 		
Maintenance of Effort (MOE)	The Outlying Area must comply with the MOE provision in section 18008 of the CARES Act.	The Outlying Area must comply with the MOE provision in section 18008 of the CARES Act.	The Outlying Area must comply with the MOE provision in section 2004(a)(1) of the ARP Act.
Reporting	An SEA must meet the reporting requirements of section 15011(b)(2) of the CARES Act, which are satisfied through the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting, and other reporting as the Secretary may require.	An SEA must meet the CARES Act reporting requirements that apply to ESF I-SEA funds.	An SEA must comply with all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. FFATA reporting requirements apply.
Tracking of Funds	ESF I-SEA funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESF II-SEA and ARP-OA SEA funds).	ESF II-SEA funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESF I-SEA and ARP-OA SEA funds).	ARP-OA SEA funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESF I-SEA and ESF II-SEA funds).